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SOURCE Meditinskiy Rabotnik, No 27, 1949.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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Synthetic caprone ligatures are chemically almost identical with natural animal ligatures. By a process of polymerizing certain known amino acid derivatives a highly polymerized hard plastic is obtained; technological processes insure sterility of the product.

The Leningrad Sanitation Hygienic Medical Institute began to use these synthetic fibers after a series of experiments on dogs and rabbits to determine the physicochemical properties of the caprone ligatures, and they proved to have many advantages. Among the advantages are greater durability than silk gut and absence of severe tissue reaction. Also, the fibrous capsules about the caprone ligatures are much thinner than those in silk gut, and they are easy to sterilize and do not dissolve in the tissues. They are not affected by ether, alcohol, or boiling as much as silk gut.

Scientists have been particularly interested in monolithic caprone ligatures. They absorb neither blood nor tissue fluids. Unfortunately, the knots made in fairly heavy monolithic ligatures will not hold satisfactorily. Series No 000, No 00, or No 0 are most frequently used in surgery. These series are as strong as thicker silk gut and have been used satisfactorily in plastic surgery. Caprone ligatures are thinner than horsehair, tear less easily, and cause less skin reaction. The only present requirement is to manufacture thin black caprone ligatures, as white ligatures are difficult to determine. The thinnest grade of caprone ligature has been used successfully by Prof P. Ye. Tikhomirov in optic surgery.

The authors have used these caprone ligatures in some 200 cases. Several thoracotomy cases were sutured with No 3 ligatures. This caprone ligature has proven very satisfactory in such operations as strumectomy and stomach resection.

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A report was submitted to the recent session of the Surgical Society of the Academy of Medical Sciences of the USSR by Dr. V. V. Pirogov. It was so well accepted that the Ministry of Health USSR urged wider use of this ligature in surgical practice. The Main Administration for Apothecary Stores has been given the task of planning the production of caprone ligature.

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